

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

No. 1080

Washington, D. C.

April 6, 1946

Tidal Wave Damage to Fisheries

Dr. Ernest D. Clark, Director of the N.C.A. Northwest Branch Laboratory, reports that newspaper accounts of threatened damage to Alaskan fish canneries on the Peninsula and Bristol Bay by the Pacific tidal waves were greatly exaggerated. Dr. Clark said that according to Coast Guard in Alaska and direct radio communication from canneries in Bristol Bay and those on Peninsula, no damage was done in Bristol Bay and only slight trouble was caused in areas on the south side of the Peninsula.

As the LETTER went to press, it was learned that the proposed standards of identity and quality for canned green and wax beans and the notice of public hearing had been signed by the acting FSA administrator. Since it had not been filed with the *Federal Register*, the Association was unable to print the official text in this issue.

Canners will be required to continue to set-aside a portion of their salmon, pilchard, and mackerel packs for government purchase for another year. Copies of the new set-aside order, Amendment 18 to WFO 44, are being mailed to all member fish canners. (See story on page 156.)

A bill has been introduced in the House which would require OPA to give 15 days' notice in advance of canning seasons before establishing or lowering ceilings (see *OPA Extension* on page 157).

Possible passage of the Pepper bill with a minimum wage increase of 65 cents per hour was almost certain as the LETTER went to press. By a vote of 41 to 27, the Senate agreed to raise the minimum wage to 65 cents. The body also would give the Secretary of Agriculture authority to determine the "area of production" provisions. (See *Congress Summary*, page 157.)

Canned Snap Bean Standards

Public hearings will be called on May 14 by the Federal Security Administrator to establish minimum standards of identity and quality for canned green and wax beans under the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The Food and Drug Administration has prepared a proposed standard of identity and also a standard of quality for both canned green and wax beans. It is understood that the standard for identity proposed by the Government provides for whole pods packed vertically, whole pods packed otherwise than vertically, whole pods sliced lengthwise, pods cut in pieces not less than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length, pods cut into pieces less than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length, and mixtures of two or more of the above forms.

It also is believed that the proposed standard of quality provides for not more than one string per ounce of drained weight, a definite limitation on percent by weight of seeds from 10 to 16 percent by weight depending on evidence presented at the hearing, a limit on the percent of fibrous material varying from 0.10 to 0.15 percent depending on evidence presented at the hearing, a limit of loose seeds of not more than 5 percent of the drained weight, not more than $\frac{1}{10}$ of 1 percent of harmless extraneous material, not more than 6 stem ends per No. 2 can, not more than 12 spotted or otherwise discolored units per No. 2 can, not more than 60 pieces less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length per No. 2 can. Various methods of making the tests for the above provisions are included. (Official text of the proposed standards will be printed in next week's INFORMATION LETTER.)

Association's Committees for 1946 Are Appointed

President Fred A. Stare this week completed the appointment of the Standing and Special Committees of the Association for 1946. Selection of the personnel followed several weeks' intensive study of the recommendations of the Committee on Committees as applied to the existing set-up, and consideration of information and suggestions received from various industry sources. The selections as set up under this program were thoroughly analyzed on the basis of their conformity to the recommendations of the Committee on Committees.

The report of the Committee, as approved by the Board of Directors (see February 12 INFORMATION LETTER, page 63), recommended termination of the Advisory Board, Interim Committee, and committees on Rationing and Social Security. The Standing Committees authorized by the Board include Adjustment, Consumer Complaint, Fishery Products, Home Economics, Labeling, Legis-

lative, Raw Products, Resolutions, Scientific Research, Simplification of Containers, Statistics, Taxation, and Traffic. The Special Committees authorized include Building, Foreign Trade, Manpower and Planning.

Invitations to serve are being mailed to all appointees and as soon as acceptances have been received the personnel of the various committees will be published in the LETTER.

FISH SET-ASIDE ISSUED

Salmon Reservation Set at 33 Percent; Pilchard, Herring, Mackerel Set-aside 45 Percent

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced April 4 that cannery of all species of salmon—except king, chinook or spring and steelhead wherever packed, and red, blueback or sockeye packed in the continental United States—will be required to deliver to the Government 33 percent of their pack from April 1, 1946, to March 31, 1947, inclusive, and cannery of pilchards, Atlantic sea herring, Atlantic mackerel, and Pacific mackerel will be required to deliver 45 percent of their pack during the same period.

The new percentages are contained in Amendment 18 to WFO-44, which restricts domestic deliveries of canned fish. The action by the Department of Agriculture is based on a need for canned fish for Government, military, and relief purposes during the 1946 pack year.

Amendment 18 also contains a provision limiting the amount of vegetable oil which tuna cannery may use. This provision was in effect during the past season. Pilchard cannery may receive credit for deliveries for export to the Philippine Islands if such deliveries are reported on the Pack Report Form. Cannery are required to report their pack weekly as heretofore and file a total report at the end of their season. The Pack Report Form (FDO-44-1) has been revised to provide space for reporting inventories and deliveries of vegetable oil for tuna cannery and exports of pilchards to the Philippines.

Government needs for canned fish of all types included under WFO-44 are expected to be about the same as last year. However, it is estimated by USDA that the total 1946 pack will be about 70,000,000 pounds greater than the 1945 pack and domestic consumers will get a total of about 480,000,000 pounds of all types of canned fish during 1946 as compared with 410,000,000 pounds last year.

Sanborn and Bohrer Take Part in Virginia Cannery Meeting

N. H. Sanborn and C. W. Bohrer of the Association's Washington Research Laboratory staff; Allen Retzlaff, Food and Drug Administration, Baltimore Station; L. M. Walker, Jr., Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture, and a group of Virginia Polytechnical Institute faculty members were speakers at a food processing plant sanitation conference on the VPI campus April 4-5.

In addition to food plant sanitation problems, discussion was given on cleaning canning equipment, control of insects and rodents, ventilation, prevention of condensation, disposal of wastes, and fruit and vegetable production.

General chairman was Henry Taylor of Walkerton, and the four sessions were presided over by E. H. Bain of Crozet, Charles E. Stuart of Montross, F. F. Brugh of Fincastle, and Howard S. Ziegler of Timberville, all of whom are Virginia cannery.

VPI faculty members taking part in the discussions were A. H. Teske, D. A. Tucker, Dr. F. S. Andrews, and L. C. Beamer, of the horticultural department; S. B. Fenne, plant pathologist, and J. O. Rowell, entomologist, agricultural extension service; G. W. Underhill, entomologist, experiment station; C. O. Handley, head, wildlife research unit; P. B. Potter, agricultural engineer, and C. W. Holdaway, head, dairy husbandry department.

Cooperating with the Virginia Cannery Association and other groups, VPI, through Dr. E. L. Overholser, head of the Department of Horticulture, sent invitations to all Virginia processors with the request that they attend the conference.

Subsidy Payment Period for Tomatoes Extended One Month

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced on March 29 an extension to February 28, 1946, of the production period during which canned tomatoes and tomato products are eligible for payments under the 1945 canned vegetable subsidy program. With the exception of canned snap beans, the eligible production period for all other vegetables included in the program ended December 31, 1945.

The amendment to the program permits cannery to receive payments on eligible sales of the following items produced during the period January 1, 1946, through February 28, 1946: Canned tomatoes, tomato juice, tomato

catsup, tomato cocktail, tomato juice contained in canned mixed vegetable juices, tomato soup, canned and bulk tomato puree, tomato paste, and tomato sauces; and on the utilization of canned and bulk tomato puree, tomato paste and tomato sauces produced during the extended period.

Packers of tomatoes and tomato products have been mailed copies of the amendment to the subsidy agreement and are required to file a detailed report of all eligible packs produced during the extended period with the field offices of the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Administration located in the region of their business address. Cannery are advised to send requests for further information on the extended production period to the same Production and Marketing Administration field offices.

Shields Named Administrator of PMA and President of CCC

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson on April 4 announced the appointment of Robert H. Shields as both administrator of the Production and Marketing Administration and president of the Commodity Credit Corporation with Jesse B. Gilmer as deputy administrator of PMA and CCC vice-president. The appointments promote two men with extended experience in the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Shields moves up from his post as solicitor of the Department into two posts vacated when John B. Hutson, who also was Under Secretary of Agriculture, resigned to become deputy secretary general of the United Nations Organization.

Mr. Gilmer, who has served as director of PMA's Budget and Management Branch as well as CCC secretary, succeeds Gayle G. Armstrong, New Mexico businessman and rancher who also has served as the government representative in the meat packing-house workers' strike. Mr. Armstrong will continue as government representative and also will be associated with the Department of Agriculture as special assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture.

In becoming PMA administrator and CCC president, Mr. Shields will direct virtually all the Department's action programs in the field of production and distribution, including the vital task of procuring wheat, meat, and fats and oils for famine relief overseas. Mr. Shields has been solicitor since March 28, 1942, having first entered service in the Department of Agriculture in 1934.

CONGRESS SUMMARY

The Senate on April 5 agreed to the establishment of a 65-cent minimum wage during debate on the Pepper bill, but the question of including farm wage factors, the so-called Pace amendment, in determining parity prices, broke up a compromise effort designed to obtain passage of a bill that would not extend coverage of the Fair Labor Standards Act nor remove existing exemptions. As the *Letter* went to press, however, final outcome was uncertain.

There were possibilities that the bill still would be voted on and passed at the 65-cent wage level including the Pace rider, but not providing for extension of coverage nor for any change in existing exemptions that apply to fruit, vegetable and fish canners.

Senators Pepper and Ellender, respective authors of the majority and minority recommendations of the Senate Committee on Education and Labor, had outlined to the Senate a compromise agreement whereby the Ellender-Ball substitute would be amended to provide for an increase in the basic wage to 60 cents an hour, but this was increased to 65 cents by amendment offered by Senator Capehart.

The compromise also called for the Senate to sidetrack the Pace amendment since the President had publicly stated he would veto a minimum wage bill containing such a rider. Under the Ellender-Ball substitute, the coverage of the wage and hour law would not be extended nor would any of the existing exemptions in the Act be changed. The increase in the minimum wage rate would take effect nine months following enactment of the compromise.

Under the Pepper bill, the minimum wage would have been established at 65 cents an hour, to be raised to 70 cents and finally to 75 cents after the elapse of a 4-year period. Also, the Pepper bill would have extended the coverage of the Act and would have removed existing exemptions applicable to fruit, vegetable, and fish canners.

OPA Extension

The House Committee on Banking and Currency concluded hearings on the subject of extending and amending the Price Control Act and began consideration of the matter in executive session during the past week. No formal reports have been issued by the Committee concerning their deliberations nor has the Committee issued any statements of action thus far taken.

A bill (H.R. 5065) to require the Price Administrator to give notice in advance of the canning and processing

seasons of intended maximum prices was introduced in the House on April 2 by Representative Gerald W. Landis of Indiana. The proposal would require that such notice be given affected canners and processors "not less than 15 days prior to the normal canning or processing season in each major producing area. . . ." This requirement, according to the bill, would have to be met "before maximum prices are established or lowered for any canned or processed agricultural commodity which is the product of seasonal canning or processing." Under the terms of the measure, notice "may be satisfied by publication in the *Federal Register*, but the Administrator shall utilize appropriate means to insure general publicity to such prices in the areas affected."

The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Banking and Currency which is now considering amendments to the Price Control Act.

Philippines Trade Act

The proposed Philippines Trade Act, providing for eight years of duty free exchange of articles between the United States and the Philippines, passed the House on March 29 and was sent to the Senate for its consideration. The bill carries quota limits on the importation of Philippine sugar, cordage, cigars and scrap tobacco, coconut oil, and pearl or shell buttons. The bill would establish a schedule of increased percentages of the ordinary duties during the period from July 4, 1954, to July 3, 1974, culminating in a 100 percent duty requirement by 1974.

Marketing Amendment Proposed

At a hearing held by the House Committee on Agriculture on April 3 on H. R. 5496, Committee Chairman John W. Flannagan, Jr., of Virginia placed in the record a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture recommending the passage of certain sections of the measure to amend the marketing agreement provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act. In connection with the bill's proposal to extend the coverage of the Act to all agricultural commodities, the Secretary pointed out that each time that subject had come before Congress in the past it had been met with "considerable opposition" on the part of processing interests. However, the Secretary's letter stated that the Department of Agriculture "is not opposed to the inclusion of additional agricultural commodities or products."

As in the past, the American Farm Bureau Federation asked that the law be amended to include all agricultural commodities. Other witnesses appearing before the Committee supported

sections of the measure that would authorize marketing programs to be continued even though parity prices were being obtained for the controlled commodity, for the collection of pro rata expenses incurred during any period an agreement is in a state of suspension, and for the establishment of minimum standards of quality and maturity and inspection requirements.

Food Research Institute

Under the provisions of a bill introduced in the House on March 28 by Representative Clifford R. Hope of Kansas, a National Food Research Institute would be established in the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of "concentrating scientific research, skill, and methods on the problems of food and fiber utilization." The bill (H.R. 5925) which has the support of the Republican Congressional Study Committee, was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture of which Representative Hope is the ranking minority member.

Among the functions proposed for the Institute are the following: (1) Establishment and operation of laboratory and other research facilities for experimentation in processing, packaging, transporting, distributing, marketing and utilizing food and farm products; (2) cooperation with State governments and the utilization of their facilities; (3) development of proposed standards of quality, quantity, grade, and packaging, and recommendation of such standards to the food industry, in order to encourage uniformity and consistency in commercial practices; (4) collection and dissemination of marketing information; (5) determination of dietary and nutritional requirement; (6) development of procurement standards and specifications of food products upon the request of Federal or State agencies for their adoption for procurement purposes.

Dodd to Succeed Hutson

President Truman this week nominated N. E. Dodd, former chief of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, to succeed J. B. Hutson as Under Secretary of Agriculture. Mr. Dodd, before joining the Department of Agriculture in June, 1943, was an Oregon farmer and rancher.

Mr. Dodd came to Washington in the fall of 1938 as assistant director of the Western Region, AAA, and in March, 1939, succeeded C. C. Conser as director at the latter's death. He had served as chairman of the Oregon Corn-Hog State Board of Review and, in 1936, was named chairman of the State Agricultural and Conservation Committee.

U. S. Department of Agriculture Announces a Price Support Program for Turkey Producers; May Urge Increased Canning

A price support program to aid turkey producers during the present feed emergency has been announced by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The program, which will call for an increase in turkey canning should it be placed in operation, will be used only in the event that heavier-than-normal seasonal disposal of turkey breeding stock results this spring from the efforts now being made to conserve grain for human consumption abroad, the USDA said.

The program, applicable to any area where price support operations prove necessary, provides for support to growers to reflect 90 percent of parity and will be administered similarly to support program for chicken. (See INFORMATION LETTER for March 9, page 129.)

Purchases will be made in carload lots only from those dealers, processors, and cooperative associations who certify that they have purchased the live turkeys from producers at prices reflecting support. All purchases of dressed turkeys made by the department will be subject to Federal inspection. The producer support prices for live turkeys and the announced prices for dressed turkeys will prevail until further notice.

Producer support prices by zones, classes, and grades, and zones established under the program are as follows:

	Zone I Cents	Zone II Cents	Zone III Cents	Zone IV Cents
Hens (live weight)	20.5	21.0	21.5	22.0
Hens (Grade A, New York dressed)	28.5	29.0	29.5	30.0
Toms (live weight)	19.5	20.0	20.5	21.0
Toms (Grade A, New York dressed)	27.5	28.0	28.5	29.0

Zone I—Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

Zone II—Washington, Oregon, California, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida.

Zone III—Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia.

Zone IV—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

Grade A dressed prices are for box packed turkeys at the point of purchase. Grade B dressed prices will be 1.5 cents a pound less on all classes.

Canned Milk Statistics

February canned evaporated milk production continued at the same level as in January, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports. The manu-

facture of 181,200,000 pounds was 28 percent less than a year earlier and 15 percent below the 1940-44 average for the month. This production was the lowest for February since 1941, BAE said.

Canned sweetened condensed milk production during February was 8,200,000 pounds, compared with 8,600,000 pounds a year earlier—a decline of 5 percent. Compared with the 1940-44 February average, production was 27 percent larger. The seasonal decline that occurred from January to February this year was much the same as that of a year ago, but for the 5-year average, production registered an 8 percent gain.

Manufacturers' holdings of case food items on February 28 were sharply down both from a year earlier and the 5-year average for the date. Evaporated milk (cases) stocks of 46,245,000 pounds were the lowest shown since 1936, 62 percent less than a year earlier and 70 percent less than the 5-year average. Manufacturers' stocks of canned condensed milk were 5,044,000 pounds compared with 6,550,000 pounds a year earlier and an average of 6,120,000 pounds for the 5-year average. These stocks were 23 percent lower than in 1945 and 18 percent below the 5-year average.

CPA Removes Restrictions on Private Imports of Rotenone

Restrictions on the importation by private companies of rotenone-bearing roots, were lifted on April 2 by the Civilian Production Administration. At the same time, the Office of Price Administration announced it would establish maximum import prices for rotenone-bearing materials. The lifting of import controls was effected by amendment of CPA's General Imports Order M-63, and is effective April 2.

Civilian Production Administration officials said that although a shortage of rotenone still existed, restrictions on private importation were being lifted in line with CPA's policy of returning commodities to private trade whenever possible. The action is in accord with unanimous recommendations of the Agricultural Insecticide and Fungicide Association and the Rotenone Importers and Processors Industry Advisory Committee.

Since early in the war, rotenone imports have been made through United States government agencies under a public purchase program. This pub-

lic purchase program, most recently handled by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation's Office of Defense Supplies, was terminated on March 31, 1946.

WAA to Sell Screen Wire

Approximately \$1,000,000 worth of steel wire insect screen, galvanized or japanned and bronze in various meshes and widths, is now on sale in a nationwide continuous program, the War Assets Administration announced this week.

Only WAA regions having inventory will sell. A reserve has been established for priority claimants. The balance is being offered to the commercial trade with the view of relieving the present critical shortage of this material, and to aid in the completion of essential construction.

Canned Poultry Statistics

The quantity of poultry canned or used in canning during February totaled 11,403,000 pounds, compared with 10,390,000 pounds in February last year and 13,686,000 pounds in February, 1944, and 13,020,000 pounds in January, 1946. Of the total quantity canned in February, this year, 10,982,000 pounds were chicken and 421,000 pounds were turkey. The following table shows the quantities canned by months for 1944 and 1945:

	1944 Pounds	1945 Pounds
January	13,191,000	15,343,000
February	13,686,000	16,390,000
March	13,261,000	18,746,000
April	10,564,000	18,392,000
May	10,056,000	20,011,000
June	11,294,000	14,401,000
July	7,839,000	7,764,000
August	6,701,000	8,034,000
September	6,476,000	4,759,000
October	10,432,000	5,815,000
November	13,449,000	8,972,000
December	12,852,000	7,960,000
Total	131,801,000	146,587,000

USDA February Food Sales Drop

Domestic sales of food and agricultural commodities by the Department of Agriculture during the month of February totaled \$5,553,570. This compares with January disposals amounting to \$8,706,840. Total sales since the beginning of the Department's disposal program in May, 1944, amount to \$81,403,002. Approximately \$5,072,000, or 62 percent of the total February sales was accounted for by disposal of items declared surplus by other government agencies.

FOREIGN TRADE MAN NAMED

Allen Walker Joins Staff as Special Liaison Man between N.C.A. and Government Offices

Allen Walker, an experienced man in foreign trade matters, has been appointed to the Association staff to continue the development of the N.C.A. service on foreign trade, authorized by the Board of Directors at the Atlantic City Convention. Attached to the Secretary's Office, he also will assist in general liaison work with many of the other government agencies, with whom, through past association and experience, he already has an effective working relationship.

Mr. Walker formerly was head of the International Trade Department of the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, and developed the institution's foreign information and foreign credit service. Prior to this he was executive director of the New York office of the United States Chamber of Commerce, during which time he served on the international arbitration committee, organized during World War I.

For the Guaranty Trust Company, Mr. Walker traveled all over the United States, speaking before trade organizations, State banking associations and commercial bodies in 90 cities. Later he visited nine of the Latin American countries whose economies and trade methods he studied while appraising their international credit status.

Subsequently, Mr. Walker headed an International Investment Syndicate which included such well-known figures as the late Percy A. Rockefeller, A. C. Bedford, H. H. Westinghouse, Otto Kahn, Mortimer Schiff, Malcolm Rorty and others. He attended the International Industrial Conference in Europe with Owen D. Young, traveled the Continent extensively, and later visited the Far East, India, Australia, North and South Africa.

During World War II, Mr. Walker served as public relations director with W. L. Clayton in the Reconstruction Finance Corporation during the development of the Division of Surplus War Property. Since that time he has specialized on food information service in Washington.

Bowles to Act for Truman

President Truman has issued an Executive Order giving Economic Stabilization Director Chester Bowles authority to grant final approval on behalf of the President to orders issued by the Secretary of Agriculture under Section 8(c) of the Ag-

ricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937. This section of the Act permits the President or his delegated agent authority to approve such actions as may be taken by the Secretary of Agriculture with regard to marketing agreement programs for commodities which fall to return average parity prices to farmers.

Canned Fruits and Juices are Freed from Export Controls

The International Trade Division of the Department of Commerce announced April 3 that Comprehensive Export Schedule No. 20, just published, lifts export controls from the following items: Grapefruit, loganberries, other canned berries, apples and applesauce, grapes, apricots, cherries, prunes and plums, pineapples, and canned fruits not otherwise specified; citrus pulp for feed—and pineapple juice.

The provisions of General License VMC for export of vessels have been expanded to permit export to any destination of vessels of a thousand gross tons or over when transfer has been authorized by the U. S. Maritime Commission. Vessels under a thousand gross tons may be exported to Group K destinations under general license, but require an individual export license for shipment to Group E destinations.

It is believed that this provision should enable the Philippines to procure the small vessels they have so urgently needed for inter-island transportation.

Poultry Ceilings to Remain

Price ceilings on poultry will not be removed or suspended at this time, the Office of Price Administration announced this week. Suspension of poultry ceilings had been considered but the agency decided to continue to maintain price controls when poultry prices in all areas began to rise. Had OPA gone through with its original plan, ceilings on canned poultry also would have been removed by the contemplated action.

Soybean Oil for Olive Oil

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced this week that 200 metric tons of soybean oil will be allocated for export to Syria and an additional 200 metric tons will be allocated for export to Lebanon in exchange for equal quantities of olive oil for importation into the United States.

These allocations are being made for the April-June quarter. Applications by private exporters for export

licenses for the shipment of soybean oil to Syria and Lebanon should be sent to the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.

Philippine Trade Resumed

Over 100,000 tons a month of miscellaneous trade goods are being exported from the United States to the Philippines, about 50 percent from the Pacific Coast, 25 percent from Gulf ports and 25 percent from the East Coast, U. S. government agencies state.

Patent Abstracts Available

Allen Property Custodian James E. Markham this week announced that the second and final supplement to the abstracts of vested chemical patents is now available. Mr. Markham said the supplement contains abstracts of about 800 patents and patent applications vested since publication of the first supplement in 1945.

The abstracts are grouped into 31 fields, ranging from heavy chemicals, drugs, foods, unit processes and ceramics, to plastics, pulp and paper, rubber and petroleum.

Both the first and the second supplements may be purchased from the Office of Allen Property Custodian, Chicago 3, Illinois, for \$1 each. The set of original abstracts, covering about 8,000 patents in the chemical field, may be obtained for \$25 from that office.

Mahoney Assumes New Duties as Director of Raw Products

Dr. Charles H. Mahoney, who has succeeded Dr. Charles G. Woodbury as Director of the Association's Raw Products Division, assumed his new duties on April 1. As announced earlier (see INFORMATION LETTER for January 26, page 27), Dr. Woodbury, founder and head of the Division since its inception, will retire on July 1 after 26 years of service with the N.C.A., but, at the request of Secretary Carlos Campbell has agreed to serve in an advisory and consulting capacity whenever needed.

Dr. Mahoney, the new Raw Products Division Director, comes to the Association with many years' experience as an agricultural scientist. As former head of the University of Maryland's Department of Horticulture, and as an agricultural experiment station worker on canning crops, Dr. Mahoney gained an intimate and thorough knowledge of the raw product problems of fruit and vegetable canning, and is known to horticulturists and allied scientists throughout the Nation for his work.

Canners Are Urged to List Their Needs for Government Surplus Items with Regional Offices of the War Assets Administration

Canners who desire to purchase items declared surplus and offered for sale through the War Assets Administration are advised to make their wants known to the regional WAA office serving their localities. By so doing they can be assured of receiving notice when articles desired are to be offered for sale.

Although all sales made by the agency are handled by the regional offices, a system has been devised whereby an individual in one region is given an equal opportunity to purchase items on sale in other regions; but the prospective purchaser must make known his willingness to pay the cost of transporting the articles from the point of sale.

Small quantities of Army equipment such as cots, feed cookers, tents, etc., are now available in some regions. However, priority claimants still are taking the items most desired by canners for housing and feeding labor.

The locations of the various offices of the War Assets Administration and the names of the regional directors in charge and their telephone numbers are listed below.

Atlanta, Ga.—H. L. Kennon, 600 Ponce de Leon Ave., N. E., Telephone: Cypress 1961.

Birmingham, Ala.—McClellan Ratchford, P. O. Box 2090, 1955 Fiftieth St., North, Telephone: 9-6171.

Boston, Mass.—John E. Milles, 600 Washington St., Telephone: Lafayette 7500.

Charlotte, N. C.—J. K. Wilson, 317 South Tryon St., Telephone: 4-5381.

Chicago, Ill.—Fred A. McLaughlan, 209 South LaSalle St., Telephone: Franklin 9430.

Cincinnati, Ohio—Rowland D. Schell, 704 Race St., Telephone: Parkway 7160.

Cleveland, Ohio—Floyd E. Brickel, 1746 East 12th St., Telephone: Cherry 5951.

Dallas, Texas—A. G. Elmendorf, 2001 McKinney Ave., Telephone: Riverside 4371.

Denver, Colo.—John A. Skeen, Commonwealth Building, 728 15th St., Telephone: Keystone 4151.

Detroit, Mich.—Henry F. Eckfeld, Buhl Building, Telephone: Cherry 4920.

Fort Worth, Texas—Hamilton Morton, Texas and Pacific Office Bldg., P. O. Box 1407, Telephone: 35381.

Helena, Mont.—Vernon W. Pomeroy, Power Block, Telephone: 1224.

Houston, Texas—Albert E. Regester, 900 Rusk Building, Telephone: Charter 4-6892.

Jacksonville, Fla.—William J. Warren, St. John's Shipyard, Administration Building, Telephone: 52922.

Kansas City, Mo.—John E. Kirchner, Troost & Bannister Road (95th Street), Telephone: Delmar 3500.

Los Angeles, Calif.—Serge F. Ballif, Jr., Mode O'Day Building, Hill Street & Washington Blvd., Telephone: Richmond 2311.

Little Rock, Ark.—Charles S. Christian, Wallace Building, Telephone: (not installed as yet).

Louisville, Ky.—Robert D. Bottomley, 103 S. 5th Street, Telephone: Wash 7541.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Arthur W. Carlson, 504 Metropolitan Life Bldg., Telephone: Atlantic 4172.

Nashville, Tenn.—H. W. McMenaway, Consolidated-Vultee Bldg., Telephone: 4-7611.

New Orleans, La.—Leonard E. Barnes, 7020 Franklin Avenue, P. O. Station D, Telephone: Crescent 9971.

New York, N. Y.—Frank L. Seymour, 350 5th Avenue, Telephone: Murray Hill 36800.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—R. D. Willbor, Jr., 200 Cotton Exchange Bldg., Telephone: 2-8521.

Omaha, Nebr.—Gordon T. Burke, 601 WOW Building, Telephone: Jackson 8200.

Philadelphia, Pa.—George L. Evans, 1528 Walnut Street, Telephone: Kinsley 1500.

Portland, Ore.—C. T. Mudge, Fenton Building, 310 S. W. 6th Avenue, Telephone: Broadway 7741.

Richmond, Va.—A. H. Graham, Richmond Trust Building, Telephone: 73491.

St. Louis, Mo.—Charles G. Alexander, 505 North 7th Street, Telephone: Central 8900.

San Antonio, Texas—W. J. Walthall, 3rd Floor, Transit Tower Corner, South St. Mary's and Villita Streets, Telephone: Cathedral 1401.

Salt Lake City, Utah—Joseph S. Willes, 504 Dooly Building, Telephone: 5-7541.

San Francisco, Calif.—Leland C. Dedo, 30 Van Ness Avenue, Telephone: Underhill 2425.

Seattle, Wash.—Orrin C. Bradeen, 2005 5th Avenue, Telephone: Main 2782.

Spokane, Wash.—James G. Wilcox, 500 Welch Building, Telephone: R-8051.

Sardik Announces Future Plans

A modern cannery for the production of canned fruits and vegetables, now being erected at Turlock, Calif., will be leased by the Sardik Food Products Corporation. The plant will more than double the productive capacity of the

factory which Sardik presently leases at Riverbank, Calif.

Sardik also has announced that plans have been completed for purchases of a plant at Shirley, Ind., and for additional properties in Indiana.

Dehydrated Tomato Flakes

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced the contemplated sale by Commodity Credit Corporation of 1,131,957 pounds of dehydrated tomato flakes. Offers to purchase this commodity must be submitted to the Contracts and Records Division, Fruit and Vegetable Branch (PMA), U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C., not later than 5 p. m., EST., April 12.

USDA Meat Board Report

Meat production under Federal inspection for the week ended March 30 totaled 258,000,000 pounds, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture Meat Board. This production was 2 percent more than the 252,000,000 pounds in the preceding week and 14 percent less than the 279,000,000 pounds produced during the corresponding week of last year.

Combined Food Board to Issue Data on Fertilizer Materials

At a recent meeting of the Committee on Fertilizers of the Combined Food Board in Washington, all members agreed that it is desirable for the committee to continue its work during the 1946-47 fertilizer year in view of the prospect for continuing shortages of many fertilizer materials. Prospective production data is being assembled and the committee proposes to reach agreement regarding preliminary allocation recommendations for the 1946-47 fertilizer year before the end of May.

Preliminary estimates indicate deficits of approximately 457,000 short tons of nitrogen and approximately 3,100,000 long tons of phosphate rock. Supplies of potash will be adequate only if the prewar level of production in Germany can be realized and the necessary transport can be mobilized.

The following countries are represented on the committee: United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Denmark, and Chile. UNRRA representatives also participate in all committee discussions.

1946 Fruit Crop Production to Be One-tenth Larger Than Last Year, According to U. S. Department of Agriculture Officials

Present indications are that the total tonnage of all fruit produced in 1946 will be about 10 percent larger than in 1945, according to the Department of Agriculture. Assuming that growing conditions in 1946 will be about average all over the nation, aggregate deciduous fruit production should be from 5 to 10 percent larger than in 1945, but from 5 to 10 percent smaller than in 1944.

Citrus fruit harvested and to be harvested in the calendar year 1946 may be at least one-tenth larger than the tonnage harvested last year. Officials are careful to warn, however, that severe spring frosts and unseasonable weather could upset these predictions and create a seriously short crop. The citrus increase is indicated because of a moderate increase in bearing surface in most citrus areas. Last year, also, witnessed smaller citrus marketings, due to the October, 1944, hurricane.

For apples in commercial areas, an about average crop, or nearly twice the small 1945 production, seems the most reasonable expectation for 1946. In the eastern and central States short apple crops are usually followed by average or above average crops. Last year, however, many orchards in these areas had so little fruit some growers discontinued spraying, which resulted in excessive scab and summer defoliation. This may tend to limit 1946 production in these orchards. Also, the trend of bearing surface is downward and for the past several years the "alternate" year large crops have usually been smaller than the previous "alternate" year large crops.

In the West, where production is less variable from year to year, about the same size crop as was harvested in 1945 should be expected. For the other important deciduous fruits the assumption of average conditions in 1946 indicates percentage decreases in relation to 1945 about as follows: Peaches 10 to 15; pears 5 to 10; prunes and plums combined 10 to 15; and an increase of about 25 percent for cherries.

In addition to the all-important spring weather factors, 1946 fruit yields will be influenced by the care given orchards and the availability of spray materials, fertilizer and machinery. Although many individual growers will find one or more of these factors limiting their fruit production this year, it does not seem likely that any of them will seriously reduce total production or the output of any one fruit crop.

Under the stimulus of relatively high wartime prices, most orchards have been well cared for, fertilizer applications have been adequate, and per acre yields high except in years when spring frosts and poor pollination weather reduced the set of fruit.

Production and marketing costs have increased sharply, but so have fruit prices, according to department statisticians. The price index for all fruits combined for the four-year period from January, 1942, to January, 1946, was more than double the five-year (1935-39) average while the two-year period from January, 1944, to January, 1946, averaged two and one-half times the five-year average.

Best Field Spacing Procedure for Tomato Plants in New York

One of the important factors in obtaining the largest yield of high quality tomatoes per acre commensurate with lowest cost of production per ton is the number of plants set per acre, or the distances of planting in the field. This subject, along with the need of spraying for disease control, is discussed in the January, 1946, issue of "Farm Research," published by the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva.

Experimental results and growers' cost account records indicated a few years ago that the largest net returns were obtained from reasonably close spacing ($3\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ feet, 3×5 , or 4×4 feet) for varieties of tomatoes commonly grown for canning in New York, such as the John Baer. In the past, however, only convenience in cultivating and harvesting and the cost of the plants have been the factors considered in determining the distance between rows. Where spraying is necessary to prevent serious losses in yield and quality of the tomatoes a wider space (6 feet) may be desirable to allow the use of present potato-spraying equipment for spraying tomatoes, and in order to determine the effect on yields of greater distances between rows, a new experiment was undertaken at Geneva in 1945, the results of which are reported in this article.

The conclusions to be drawn from this experiment, the article states, are that "for cannery tomatoes of the John Baer type optimum yields will be obtained if the plants are spaced in the field to provide 15 to 16 square feet per plant, and that the distance between

rows can be either 4, 5, or 6 feet without reducing yields, providing the plants are set closer in the wider rows. Therefore, if a grower desires greater space between rows to facilitate spraying, he need not hesitate to adjust the distance between rows to suit the most advantageous use of his cultivating and spraying equipment."

New Bulletin on Pea Diseases

A bulletin describing briefly the diseases affecting peas and their causes has just been published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture entitled "Pea Diseases and Their Control," Farmers Bulletin No. 1735. The information contained in this publication should enable growers to recognize the diseases and apply the recommendations for preventing or controlling them. Unfortunately, control measures are not known for some of the diseases. Pea seed grown in the semi-arid West, which is more nearly free from seed-borne diseases than that grown in the East, should be planted when available.

Ascochyta and bacterial blights are seed borne. To control them clean seed should be planted, but no permanent control is possible until disease-resistant varieties have been developed by breeding and selection. Crop rotation and destruction of crop refuse are recommended also where ascochyta blight occurs.

The fusarium wilt fungus lives almost indefinitely in the soil; therefore crop rotation is of no value in controlling it. Fortunately, a large number of resistant varieties of the canning type and some of the market-garden ones are available.

Root rots, which are caused by several organisms, cannot be entirely controlled. They can, however, be reduced by the use of well-drained soil, by careful preparation of the soil, by proper fertilization, and by judicious crop rotation in case organisms that attack peas only are involved.

Copies of the bulletin are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for 10 cents.

Armour Promoted by Heinz

The H. J. Heinz Company has announced the appointment of Frank Armour, Jr., as manager of operations for the manufacturing division of the company. Mr. Armour, a graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology, joined the Heinz Company in 1927.

NO AGREEMENT YET REACHED ON CUBAN SUGAR CROP

Delegates Returning to Cuba to Offer U. S. Proposal for Consideration

As the LETTER went to press, the Cuban delegates had not signed an agreement to sell the 1946 Cuban sugar crop of 4,250,000 tons to the United States (the balance remaining after withholding 680,000 tons for Cuban needs). The delay apparently has been due to the unwillingness of certain Cuban interests to accept the proposed price of \$3.67½ per hundredweight for the next two years. Up to this week it was generally believed that there was no disagreement between the United States and Cuba as to price—\$3.67½ per hundredweight apparently being acceptable for the 1946 crop as against \$3.10 paid for the 1945 crop.

On April 4 American officials met with the Cuban delegates to present what amounted to a final proposition from the U. S. point of view.

Certain adjustments were worked out. No additional supplies of food—flour, lard and rice—could be assured the Cubans on account of the European famine situation, but as against previous declarations of the U. S. delegation to purchase substantial quantities of alcohol and molasses from Cuba, the U. S. Government has agreed to take these Cuban products in satisfactory quantities and price.

The U. S. proposal covers two years' crop. In brief, it agrees to take 10 million gallons of alcohol each year, 150 million gallons of Cuban molasses this year and more next year if Cuban production increases, with the prices on both commodities remaining the same as in the 1945 contracts.

The price of Cuban sugar is to remain at \$3.67½ per hundredweight, as indicated above, unless Puerto Rico receives an interim increase, in which case the same increase is to be passed on to Cuba.

Under the U. S. proposal, Cuba may withhold 600,000 tons of sugar this year for domestic consumption and export to Latin American customers and 20,000 tons for UNRRA. Next year she may withhold 680,000 tons. Cuba receives guarantees of both food allocation and price stabilization.

The Cuban delegates are returning home to present the U. S. proposition, to return here after Easter with an official answer. At the conclusion of the conference, all the delegates, including the Cubans, were optimistic as to the probability of Cuba's acceptance of the deal.

If political pressures in Cuba impel the Cuban Government to demand a higher price for 1946-47 crops—or for just this year's crop—they likely will be refused as the Commodity Credit Corporation does not have the funds to pay much more. About 20 cents a hundredweight higher price would be the maximum and would exhaust all of CCC's cash allotment.

If the conferees cannot agree, it may mean that the U. S. will have to continue to import Cuban sugar on a catch-as-catch-can shipment basis; also that the U. S. may be able to plan on procurement of only a portion of Cuba's 1946 crop for Combined Food Board allocation, while the balance of the crop is hoarded by Cuban producers in the hope of a price raise.

The Cuban sugar crop may not mean more than 73 pounds per capita in the U. S. for 1946 since Cuba is likely to retain more sugar this year than last for domestic civilian consumption. Cuba requires 680,000 tons for home consumption and for exports to Latin American customers. Only 400,000 tons were retained in Cuba last year for these purposes.

The basic shortage of sugar at the very beginning of 1946 was due to the big drop in international inventories. Santo Domingo's stockpile in January of this year was 300,000 tons lower than at the same date in 1945. The stockpile of sugar in Great Britain was down 400,000 tons and Cuba's inven-

tory showed 550,000 tons less than at the beginning of 1945. This total drop of 1,250,000 tons was of considerable concern.

Great Lakes Fish Treaty Signed

The United States and Canada on April 9 signed at Washington a treaty to provide for the development, protection, and conservation of the Great Lakes fisheries. The treaty embodies the recommendations made by the International Board of Inquiry for the Great Lakes fisheries which was originally set up in 1940 by the two countries to study the taking of fish in the Great Lakes and to make recommendations as to methods for preserving and developing these fisheries.

Ceilings Off Canned Crab Meat

Exemption of canned, frozen, and fresh crab meat from price control on March 29, 1946, was announced this week by the Office of Price Administration through the issuance of amendment 23 to Supplementary Order 132. Ceilings on crab meat have been suspended since October 31, 1945.

Salmon Canner Leaves Navy

Capt. C. E. Anderson has completed his tour of duty with the Navy and has returned to take over the operation of Seldovia Packers, Seattle, Wash., of which he is owner.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Tidal wave damage to fisheries	155	Soybean oil for olive oil	159
Canned snap bean standards	155	Philippine trade resumed	159
Association's committees for 1946 are appointed	155	Patent abstracts available	159
Fish set-aside issued	156	Mahoney assumes new duties as Director of Raw Products	159
Sanborn and Bohrer take part in Virginia Cannery meeting	156	Canners are urged to list their needs for government surplus items with regional offices of the War Assets Administration	160
Subsidy payment period for tomatoes extended one month	156	Sardik announces future plans	160
Shields named administrator of PMA and president of CCC	157	Dehydrated tomato flakes	160
Congress summary	157	USDA Meat Board report	160
Dodd to succeed Hutson	157	Combined Food Board to issue data on fertilizer materials	160
U. S. Department of Agriculture announces a price support program for turkey producers; may urge increased canning	158	1946 fruit crop production to be one-tenth larger than last year, according to U. S. Department of Agriculture officials	161
Canned milk statistics	158	Best field spacing procedure for tomato plants in New York	161
CPA lifts restrictions on private imports of rotenone	158	New bulletin on pea diseases	161
WAA to sell screen wire	158	Armour promoted by Heinz	161
Canned poultry statistics	158	No agreement yet reached on Cuban sugar crop	161
USDA February food sales drop	158	Great Lakes fish treaty signed	161
Foreign trade man named Bowles to act for Truman	159	Ceilings off canned crab meat	161
Canned fruits and juices are freed from export control	159	Salmon canner leaves Navy	162
Poultry ceilings to remain	159		